

**Minutes District Parents Advisory Council  
Tuesday, October 17, 2006  
Henry Grube Centre**

**Attendees:**

<b>Robin Brown</b>		<b>Clearwater</b>
<b>Heather Bryan</b>		
<b>Alana Frymire</b>		
<b>Shelley Grafunder</b>		<b>Clearwater</b>
<b>Jeannine Jubinville</b>	<b>Lloyd George/SKS</b>	
<b>Kathleen</b>		
<b>Lorna McMillan</b>	<b>VSS</b>	
<b>Lynne Monteith</b>		
<b>Gisela Ruckert</b>	<b>Beattie Elem.</b>	
<b>Paula Schmidt</b>	<b>Sahali Secondary</b>	
<b>Heather Shantz</b>		
<b>Laura Soles</b>		<b>Clearwater</b>
<b>Sharlene Tobin</b>		<b>Clearwater</b>
<b>Dean Watts</b>	<b>South Sahali Elem.</b>	
<b>Ross Spina</b>	<b>School District #73</b>	
<b>John Harwood</b>	<b>Trustee</b>	<b>Clearwater</b>
<b>Meghan Wade</b>	<b>Trustee</b>	
<b>Mark McVittie</b>	<b>KTTA</b>	
<b>Lesley Davidson</b>	<b>Valleyview Sec.</b>	<b>374-8225</b> <a href="mailto:l2e2d2@yahoo.com">l2e2d2@yahoo.com</a>

Expression of appreciation to School District #73 and Travis Ray for accommodating our Teleconferencing needs in connecting Clearwater parents, District Parent Advisory parents, and School Board representatives at the Grube Centre, Kamloops.

**Delegations:**

**Graduation Portfolio**

**Ross Spina, Assistant Superintendent – Secondary Education** presented information regarding

- **2006 Regional Portfolio Review Forum** available Thursday, Oct.26, Ramada Lodge Hotel, 2170 Harvey Ave., Kelowna, B.C.
- The Graduation Portfolio 2006-2007 can be a “standing granted” or “credit with grade application to grade twelve accomplishments”.
- The Grade 12 student, this year, decides to complete their “Graduation Portfolio” Assessment, or not, in the beginning of the school year.
- Some schools have reported initial participation rates as;
  - Westsyde      32/122
  - Chase      6/53
  - Sahali      41/137
  - Clearwater      10/65
  - Norkam      30/170
  - Logan Lake      7/18

***Action: Ross Spina will query schools to assess percentages of female and male students opting to complete portfolios.***

Sahali secondary councilor submitted information regarding some reasons students had opted to complete or not complete:

Those choosing to complete the portfolio (approx. 30%) gave the following reasons:

1. They had already done a lot of work and wanted to finish for personal satisfaction.
2. They wanted a high mark on their transcript.
3. They were in a special Portfolio group in gr.11 and wanted to finish with the group.

Students that chose not to continue (approx. 70%) gave reasons as follows:

1. They want to concentrate on their academic subjects.
2. They think that most universities will not be counting the portfolio mark.
3. They have no time; many grade 12's are balancing school/homework, job, and sports.
4. They have not fully embraced the project and feel ambiguous about finishing.

***Action: Paula Schmidt will be attending the “2006 Regional Portfolio Review Forum” on Thursday October 26<sup>th</sup>. Please forward any submission or feedback you would like to contribute by Tuesday, October 24, 2006.***

**Adoption of Minutes:** Minutes reviewed.

***Motion: Adoption of Minutes  
Paula/Lesley  
Passed.***

**Class Size and Composition** resource information presented by Ross Spina as per the “Superintendent’s Report” attached to last meetings minutes. The data will be submitted for the District Template. Information on every class will be available. The “Class Size” data will be published for the public by October 31, 2006. There are ten senior classes with more than 30 students enrolled. Consultation has occurred between teacher, principal and school board in these situations (Leadership, Music, PE classes).

### **School Fees**

Lesley summarized what she heard Dr. Terry Sullivan present Monday night at the School Board meeting:

- Recent legal action does not prohibit education fees but further restricts education fees. There is no Ministry statement to date. Unlikely to be appealed. No additional funding available.
- Two committees will be struck. One to work with the information each Principal is submitting regarding listing all fees in each school. The same Committee will assess the cost to the Board to absorb this year’s fees that can no longer be charged, and suggest a process of approval for the paying of these fees.
- The second Committee will assess what can be charged and what will be restricted. This may incorporate the restructuring of some programs and/or the elimination of other programs.
- Dr Sullivan states a letter will go out early in the New Year to each parent and child. He requests that we continue to be patient and that there be no disruption to the programs this year.

### Discussion

- Fees are not allowed for curriculum/courses that contribute to graduation (electives included)
- Concerns regarding two tier education systems because of economic demographics

- Concerns regarding “demonstration only” classes.
- No definitive plan on this years paid fees.
- Discussion regarding the power of parents and students to influence government. Discussion regarding “early intervention” and “timing” being critical. Perhaps the DPACs throughout the province would communicate.
- **Paula requesting the opportunity for parent input into second committee outlined by Dr. Sullivan at board meeting.**

**Action:**

*Paula to forward Victoria DPAC interpretation synopsis to DPAC distribution list.*

*Paula to query provincial DPAC list-serve to discuss provincial parent voice and possible action.*

*Link to Supreme Court ruling will be posted on SD #73 website ([www.sd73.bc.ca](http://www.sd73.bc.ca))*

*Gisela Ruckert, Paula Schmidt, Dean Watts and Lesley Davidson to draft a one page resource letter outlining background information, interpretation, possible questions for PACs to consider, and possible opportunities for action. This will be sent via DPAC distribution list with hard copy to elementary schools and secondary schools. (Backgrounder and questions for consideration to be supplied asap, opportunities for action to follow.)*

**Financial Report:** No report this evening.

**Old Business:**

*Rural Schools Renewal Conference Representative:* Laura Soles, Clearwater BCCPAC Fall Conference, Kelowna, Nov. 16-19

- Nelson Grant / Paula Schmidt to attend from DPAC
- Laura Soles and two other parents from Clearwater and two parents from Vavenby will be attending with some transportation support from remaining BCCPAC allocation to DPAC

*Special Projects Facilitator:* Sara Cummings will be asked to attend Nov. 21/06 DPAC meeting.

*Board Committees* School District #73 is requesting DPAC representation to liaison with each of the Board Committees

**Board Committees.**

Education	Lesley Davidson /
First Nations	Dean Watts /
Finance and Planning	
Human Resources	
Policy	Gisela Ruckert /

**Please inform Paula or Lesley if you are interested in a role.**

Board Meeting Attendance In addition, our attendance, learning and reporting back to DPAC is encouraged.

### School Board Meetings

Agenda and Minutes available Thursday on Website  
Background information available from Paula on Fridays  
Up to date Agenda at door Monday night

September 25, 2006 Vavenby	
October 16, 2006	Lesley Davidson
October 30, 2006 Logan Lake	
November 6, 2006	<b>Kathleen still need a representative for Nov. 20/06, prior to our Nov.21/06 meeting.</b>
November 20, 2006	
December 4, 2006	
December 18, 2006	

**Please inform Paula or Lesley if you are interested in attending a particular meeting.**

**Chair's Report:** None

**Committee Reports:** None

**Superintendent Remarks:** as per "Graduation Portfolio", "Class Size" and "Fees" presentations.

#### **Trustee Remarks:**

**Meghan Wade** informed us;

- Secondary schools "Transition TRU" registration due **by Nov. 3, 2006 for Grade 11's**. Coordinators in school would be approached if students are interested.
- Oct. 24/06 Fine Arts High School meeting

#### **Nov. 16, 2006 School District Board Meeting summary: Lesley Davidson**

Abbreviated due to time constraints:

- Great to see student accomplishment presentations (elementary and secondary)
- Interesting to hear of New Programs ("Respectful Relationships", "TRU Start Program")
- Informative to hear accomplishments in present programs ("Auditor", "Summer School", "Class Size", "Enrolment Report", "Leadership Development Program for Staff".

Questions and discussion tonight re:

- Other districts offering "TRU Start Up" program – one lower mainland site that one parent knows of.
- Enquiry re School Planning Councils (SPC) opportunity to be aware of declining Grade 11 and 12 returns? Response that it would be PACs and SPCs work.
- Enquiry re Teen Mentoring Programs "Police Check"? Still in formulation stage.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

**Next Meeting: TUESDAY, November 21, 2006 7:00 p.m. Grube Centre**

**Resources:** [www.bced.gov.bc.ca/graduation/portfolio](http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/graduation/portfolio)  
[Educ.portfolio@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Educ.portfolio@gov.bc.ca)  
[www.SD73.bc.ca](http://www.SD73.bc.ca)